



Country Inn & Suites by Carlson Historic Area Williamsburg, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green* has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism, and these practices are considered the required minimum for participation in the program. However, *Virginia Green* encourages its participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations; and this profile provides a full list of all their "green" activities. These are the activities that guests / customers can expect to find when they visit this facility.

Country Inn & Suites by Carlson Historic Area

"With its charming décor and comfortable amenities, the award-winning Country Inn & Suites Williamsburg Hotel creates a welcoming atmosphere sure to please business and leisure travelers alike. Conveniently located near Colonial Williamsburg, Busch Gardens Europe, Bell Air Plantation Home and the Williamsburg winery, our hotel in Williamsburg, Virginia, provides easy access to a wealth of attractions and entertainment. Be our guest and see what sets us apart from other hotels in Williamsburg, VA."



Green Statement: "We went Green to 'do our part for the Environment'."

CORE ACTIVITIES for Lodging

"☒ This symbol indicates a required activity for Virginia Green Lodging facilities. Participants self-certify that these activities are in place and they provide additional specifics on other activities. Visitors to Country Inn and Suites by Carlson Historic Area can expect the following practices:

☒ **Optional Linen Service.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must have some sort of system in place that allows guests to not have their sheets and towels changed every day. This facility pledges that they:

- Have signage in each guest room explaining the linen reuse procedures
- Train house cleaners on process for optional linen service
- Purchase water and energy efficient washers and dryers
- Use non-phosphate, non-toxic and biodegradable laundry detergents
- Minimize use of bleach and chlorinated chemicals
- Other: only run washers when we have full loads so as not to waste water and detergents.

☒ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** Virginia Green Lodging facilities must recycle and are highly encouraged to maintain a comprehensive recycling program. This facility pledges that they:

- Guests can recycle: glass bottles, plastic bottles, newspaper, office paper
- Have a central recycling bin for collection by maintenance staff
- Hotel also recycles office paper, toner cartridges, fluorescent lamps, batteries
- Hotel tracks overall solid waste costs

Guest rooms

- Use refillable shampoo bottles rather than single-use bottles
- Instruct housekeeping to save and reuse unopened items

Kitchen (or meetings/events)

- Recycle fryer grease and/or filter grease prior to recycling
- Donate excess food from events
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste

Dining room (or meetings/events)

- Use disposable foodservice items that are made with recycled content
- Use disposable foodservice items that are recyclable (in your area!)
- Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- Use water pitches and filtered water to minimize the use of single-use bottles

Restrooms

- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Purchase recycled-content paper towels and toilet paper

Office

- Remove facility and staff names from junk mail lists when possible
- Reuse scrap paper for notes
- Reuse or donate shipping and packing supplies (peanuts, bubble wrap, etc.)
- Use refillable pens and toner cartridges
- Purchase recycled paper with a high-percentage recycled content
- Make double-sided photocopies and avoid making extra photocopies
- Use electronic correspondence and forms when possible

Building and grounds

- Use green cleaning products that are dispensed in bulk
- Install carpet with sustainable or recycled content and low-VOC adhesives
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex low or no-VOC paints
- Re-use paint thinners
- Properly recycle and/or dispose of thinners and solvents (required by law)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use integrated pest management (IPM)
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping

☒ **Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater

Activities indoors

- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Use water-flow metering to discover leaks and areas of high use
- Have installed:
 - High efficiency dishwashers
 - Low flow faucets and showerheads (use less than 2.5 gallons per minute)
 - Low flow toilets (use 1.6 gallons per flush or less)

- Automatic faucets or toilets in public restrooms
- Use microfiber technology mops

Activities outdoors

- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilizes native species, and minimizes lawn areas
- Facility utilizes drought resistant plants that require little or no watering.

☒ **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Use ENERGY STAR's Benchmarking Tools for the Hospitality Industry

Heating and cooling

- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Have installed ENERGY STAR-rated windows and doors
- Regularly perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Keep office doors and windows closed in HVAC system is on

Lighting

- Use natural lighting
- Use lighting sensors to turn on/off lights
- Use occupancy sensors to turn on/off lights
- Have adopted a policy/practice to turn off lights in unoccupied rooms
- Have installed high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T5s and T8s)
- Have installed compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
- Have installed LED Exit Signs
- Have installed directional (downward-facing) lighting in parking areas and other outdoor areas
- Have adopted a policy/practice to minimize the use of lighting during night cleaning

Appliances and electronic devices

- Use ENERGY STAR qualified appliances (commercial kitchens, heating and cooling, consumer electronics)
- USE ENERGY STAR qualified office equipment (computers, monitors, copiers, printers, etc.)
- Have adopted a policy / practice to turn off fans, computers, monitors and other device in unoccupied rooms an the end of the workday or when otherwise not being used



☒ **Green Events Package.** The facility must offer a “green” or “environmentally-friendly” package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided.

- This hotel does not host conferences or events.

For more information on The Country Inn & Suites by Carlson Historic Area, see www.countryinns.com/williamsburgva_historicarea or contact Ms. Shelley Smith at cx_wlam@countryinns.com or 757-259-7990.

For more information on *Virginia Green Lodging* program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/lodging or go to www.viriniagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green Lodging program is a supporting partner of *Virginia Green*, the Commonwealth's campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green* is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

